

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-14. (Canceled)

<sup>1</sup>/~~15~~. (Previously amended) A chemical composition used to stimulate weight loss in a patient, consisting essentially of:

acarbose; and

a sustained release matrix, wherein said acarbose and sustained release matrix are combined to form a mixture.

<sup>2</sup>/~~16~~. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~15~~, wherein said acarbose is about 20% to about 40% by weight of said composition.

<sup>3</sup>/~~17~~. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~15~~, wherein said acarbose is present in an amount of about 25mg to about 300mg.

<sup>4</sup>/~~18~~. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~15~~, further consisting essentially of a filler.

<sup>5</sup>/~~19~~. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim <sup>4</sup>/~~18~~, further consisting essentially of a glidant.

<sup>6</sup>/~~20~~. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim <sup>5</sup>/~~19~~, further consisting essentially of a lubricant.

<sup>9</sup>/~~21~~. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>5</sup>/~~19~~, wherein said glidant is selected from the group consisting of colloidal silica and precipitated silica.

<sup>7</sup>/~~22~~. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>6</sup>/~~20~~, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium stearyl fumarate, and metal stearates.

<sup>8</sup>/~~23~~. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>6</sup>/~~20~~, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, zinc stearate, calcium stearate, and mixtures thereof.

<sup>10</sup>/<sub>24</sub>. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~15~~, wherein said sustained release matrix is hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).

<sup>11</sup>/<sub>25</sub>. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~15~~, wherein said composition is covered with a coating.

<sup>12</sup>/<sub>26</sub>. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>11</sup>/~~25~~, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating.

<sup>13</sup>/<sub>27</sub>. (Original) The composition of claim <sup>11</sup>/~~25~~, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating in combination with ethyl cellulose.

28-42. (Canceled)

<sup>14</sup>/<sub>43</sub>. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient to stimulate weight loss comprising administering an sustained release acarbose formulation to the patient, wherein such formulation does not include a lipase inhibitor.